

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ADDIS 02472 241411Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00
PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 A-01 OPR-02 SY-05 MMO-01
SCS-03 SCA-01 FS-01 EUR-12 OCL-00 OC-06 CCO-00
/082 W

-----241413Z 101397 /43

O 241320Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3641
INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA IMMEDIATE
SECDEF IMMEDIATE
JCS IMMEDIATE
USCINCEUR IMMEDIATE
USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
BUMED IMMEDIATE
CINCUSNAVEUR IMMEDIATE
CNO IMMEDIATE
NAVCOMMU IMMEDIATE
COMNAVTELCOM IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T ADDIS ABABA 2472

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, ET, US
SUBJ: WITHDRAWAL OF USG FACILITIES AND PERSONNEL FROM ETHIOPIA

REF: A) STATE 92279, B) STATE 92322, C) STATE 92324,
D) ADDIS ABABA 2454

1. BY SEPTTEL WE ARE REPORTING RESULTS OF MEETING BETWEEN
CHARGE AND MOFA AMERICAN AFFAIRS DIVISION CHIEF BERHANE
DERESSA LATE MORNING APRIL 24. MEETING WAS GENERALLY INCON-
CLUSIVE AS TO DETAILS, BUT BERHANE REPEATEDLY ASSURED CHANGE
THAT EPMG 1) WANTS TO FACILITATE SMOOTH DEPARTURE, AND 2)
ASSURES ALL POSSIBLE SECURITY MEASURES WILL BE TAKEN

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 ADDIS 02472 241411Z

TO PREVENT ANY INCIDENTS. RE DEPARTURE, EPMG IS WILLING
TO CONSIDER EXTRA TIME FOR FINAL DEPARTURE OF ALL CON-
CERNED, BUT HE COULD NOT SAY HOW MUCH (THIS IN RESPONSE
TO MY STRONG REQUEST PER STATE 92279. I DID NOT EXACTLY
PROTEST SHORT TIME LIMIT SINCE IT WAS QUITE OBVIOUS THAT
BERHANE HAD ALREADY MOVED ON HIS OWN (HE THOUGHT
SECCESFULLY) TO GAIN US ADDITONAL TIME, AND I

WOULD PREFER TO LET MATTER LAY THERE FOR MOMENT).
RE PROTECTION, WE HAVE HAD ARMY TROOPS AT USIS AND NAMRU
ALL DAY. UNFORTUNATELY THEIR PROTECTION IS SO TIGHT
THAT THEY HAVE KEPT US FROM GAINING ACCESS OURSELVES
AND EFFORTS BY BOTH BERHANE AND OURSELVES TO REACH
THEIR COMMANDERS TO ALLOW ACCESS HAVE SO FAR BEEN UN-
AVAILABLE. BERHANE CONSIDERS IT A MISINTERPRETATION OF
ORDERS AND I BELIEVE HIM. WE WILL KEEP AT IT.

2. OUR CONCEPT OF MOST EFFICIENT EXODUS IS BY MAC
AIRCRAFT, WHETHER MILITARY OR CHARTER IS IMMATERIAL.
FOR KAGNEW, MILITARY AIRCRAFT WILL BE NECESSARY. WE
HAVE REQUESTED CLEARANCE FOR TWO MAC FLIGHTS TO ADDIS PER
DAY FOR AT LEAST NEXT THREE DAYS AND REQUESTED EMERGENCY
CLEARANCE FOR MAC FLIGHTS(S) TO ASMARA BUT DO
NOT YET KNOW HOW MANY WILL BE REQUIRED. IF
MAC IS UTILIZED, ATHENS WILL BE TERMINAL POINT FOR
ALL MILITARY PERSONNEL WHO USE MAC AND FOR WHATEVER
HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS WE CAN GET OUT IN THE GIVEN TIME
PERIOD. AT PRESENT, FOR PLANNING PURPOSES, DESPITE
EPMG OFFER RE TIME EXTENSION, WE ARE STILL THINKING IN
TERMS OF FOUR DAYS AND WILL CONTINUE DO SO UNTIL WE
GET A SPECIFIC TIME EXTENSION. USIS PERSONNEL ARE ALL
BOOKED ON COMMERCIAL FLIGHT LEAVING HERE MORNING APRIL
26, ALTHOUGH PAO LEWIS MAY DELAY IF TIME EXTENSION IS
FORTHCOMING. RE DOD CONTRACT PERSONNEL, WE HAVE INTER-
PRETED EPMG'S NOTE TO INCLUDE THEM AS WELL AND GEN. FYE
HAS SO NOTIFIED MOND AYALEW. USIS IS INSTRUCTING FSL'S TO
CLOSE READING ROOMS OUTSIDE OF ADDIS (SEE SEPTTEL).

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 ADDIS 02472 241411Z

3. PERSONNEL WHO WILL LEAVE HAVE BEEN PACKING ALL DAY
AND SOME COULD HAVE LEFT TODAY HAD THERE BEEN AIRCRAFT
AVAILABLE (SOME OF THOSE WE HAD EARLIER IDENTIFIED FOR
EARLY DEPARTURE). CHARGE WILL MEET WITH REPS OF PRIVATE
AMERICANS MORNING APRIL 25. THUS FAR WE HAVE NOT
HEARD OF ANY PROBLEMS CONCERNING THEM EXCEPT FOR TWO
MISSIONARIES WHO WERE ASKED TO LEAVE IN A RURAL AREA.
ADDIS ITSELF HAS BEEN CALM ALL DAY. RUMORS THAT THERE
WOULD BE A DEMONSTRATION HAVE THUS FAR NOT MATERIALIZED
AND CHARGE URGED BERHANE TO TRY TO DISCOURAGE ANY SUCH
INTENTION IF THERE WAS SUBSTANCE TO RUMOR. HE SAID HE
WOULD.

4. RE PARA 3 STATE 92322, SEE NO PROBLEM NOW REGARDING
SECURITY AND PROTECTION OF PROPERTY. AS INDICATED
PARA ONE ABOVE, IF ANYTHING IT IS TOO TIGHT. TODAY'S
PERFORMANCE MAY NOT BE TOMORROW'S, HOWEVER, SO WE
SHALL HAVE TO TRY TO KEEP ON TOP OF IT. WE ARE

CONSOLIDATING SOME PROPERTY AND WILL LET YOU KNOW AT
LATER TIME. WE ARE CLOSING COMMISSARY AND PX
APRIL 24 AND HAVE SHUT OFF INCOMING APO MAIL AS OF
TODAY (SOME OUTGOING WILL STILL BE HANDLED FOR DAY OR
SO).

5. FOREGOING IS PROBABLY AS FAR AS WE CAN GO TODAY.
SUNDAY IS JUST NO DAY TO TRY TO GET MUCH DONE WITH EPMG.
FACT THAT TODAY IS SUNDAY HAS APPARENTLY FIGURED IN
EPMG'S WILLINGNESS TO GRANT EXTRA TIME. CHARGE HAS
BEEN PROMISED MEETING WITH FONMIN MONDAY APRIL 25
(ITALIAN AMBASSADOR HAS SIMILIAR PROMISE).
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Message Attributes

Automatic DecapTIONing: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, CLOSURE OF OFFICES, CONSULATE CLOSING, MILITARY BASE CLOSINGS, EVACUATION PLANS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
DecapTION Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
DecapTION Note:
Disposition Action: Released in Full
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: 200202525
Disposition Comment: RECORDING OF CLASSIFICATION/RECLASSIFICATION ACTION IN SAS (STATE ARCHIVING SYSTEM) BY THE DESIGNATED AUTHORITY FOR THIS ACTION, WHO HAS APPROVED RECLASSIFICATION AND OR EXTENSION ACTION ON THIS DOCUMENT.
Disposition Date: 03-Dec-2007 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: Released in Full by JOHN BLODGETT on 03-DEC-07 ;
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ADDIS02472
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770143-0069
Format: TEL
From: ADDIS ABABA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770425/aaaaavil.tel
Line Count: 129
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 81e616a0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 92279, 77 STATE 92322, 77 STATE 92324
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2712140
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WITHDRAWAL OF USG FACILITIES AND PERSONNEL FROM ETHIOPIA
TAGS: PFOR, ET, US, USIA, MAAG, NAMRU, (BERHANE DERESSA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/81e616a0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009